

Colorado, on behalf of the Wyoming Outdoor Council and Biodiversity Associates.

### DRUGS AND TERRORISM

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on Technology, Terrorism, and Government Information concluded hearings to examine the worldwide connection between drugs and terrorism, focusing on identification and investigation of criminal and terrorist groups, after receiving testimony from Asa Hutchinson, Administrator, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice; Richard Newcomb, Director, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury; R. Rand Beers, Assistant Secretary, Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, and Francis X. Taylor, Coordinator for Counter Terrorism, both of the Department of State;

Curtis W. Kamman, former U.S. Ambassador to Colombia; and R. Grant Smith, Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies/Central Asia Caucasus Institute, Washington, D.C., former U. S. Ambassador to Tajikistan, Michael Shifter, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service Center for Latin American Studies, and Martha Brill Olcott, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, all of Washington, D.C.

### INTELLIGENCE

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to call.

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## House of Representatives

### *Chamber Action*

**Measures Introduced:** 13 public bills, H.R. 3951–3963; 1 private bill, H.R. 3964 and; 3 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 349, and H. Res. 368–369 were introduced.

Pages H906–07

**Reports Filed:** No reports were filed today.

**Speaker Pro Tempore:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Simpson to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H835

**Guest Chaplain:** The prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, LCDR Bryan K. Finch, Chaplain, U.S. Coast Guard Training Center, Yorktown, Virginia.

Pages H835–36

**Journal Vote:** Agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal of Tuesday, March 12 by a yea-and-nay vote of 355 yeas to 45 nays with 1 voting "present," Roll No. 54.

Pages H837–38

**Presidential Messages:** Read the following messages from the President:

*Continuation of National Emergency re Iran:* Message wherein he transmitted a notice stating that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared with respect to Iran and maintain in force comprehensive sanctions against Iran to respond to this threat—referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered printed (H. Doc. 107–187); and

Pages H846–47

*Six Month Periodic Report on National Emergency re Iran:* Message wherein he transmitted a 6-

month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Iran that was declared in Executive Order 12957 of March 15, 1995—referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered printed (H. Doc. 107–188).

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**Class Action Fairness Act:** The House passed H.R. 2341, to amend the procedures that apply to consideration of interstate class actions to assure fairer outcomes for class members and defendants, to outlaw certain practices that provide inadequate settlements for class members, to assure that attorneys do not receive a disproportionate amount of settlements at the expense of class members, to provide for clearer and simpler information in class action settlement notices, to assure prompt consideration of interstate class actions, to amend title 28, United States Code, and to allow the application of the principles of Federal diversity jurisdiction to interstate class actions by a yea-and-nay vote of 233 yeas to 190 nays, Roll No. 62.

Pages H885–86

Rejected the Sandlin of Texas motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on the Judiciary with instructions to report it back with an amendment that prohibits defendants who are knowing participants in conspiracies to hijack aircraft or commit acts of terrorism to remove a class action to Federal court by a recorded vote of 191 ayes to 235 noes, Roll No. 61.

Pages H884–85

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary now printed in the bill, H. Rept.

107–370, was considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment.

Page H857

Agreed To:

Nadler amendment No. 2, printed in H. Rept. 107–375, as modified, that prohibits any order, opinion, or record of the court from being sealed or subjected to a protective order unless the court finds that the sealing or protective order is narrowly tailored, consistent with the protection of public health and safety, and is in the public interest;

Pages H859–60

Keller amendment No. 4, printed in H. Rept. 107–375, as modified, that requires courts with jurisdiction over a plaintiff class action to disclose their fees to each plaintiff if there is a settlement or judgment for the plaintiffs; and

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Hart amendment No. 9, printed in H. Rept. 107–375, as modified, that directs the Judicial Conference of the United States with the assistance of the Director of the Federal Judicial Center and the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts to prepare and transmit to the Committees on the Judiciary of the Senate and House of Representatives a report on class action settlements in the Federal courts, within 12 months after the date of enactment.

Pages H879–82

Rejected:

Waters amendment No. 3, printed in H. Rept. 107–375, as modified, that sought to deem a party in a class action suit as admitting any fact with respect to which a discovery order was issued when that party withholds or destroys material subject to the order (rejected by a recorded vote of 174 ayes to 251 noes, Roll No. 56);

Page H872

Lofgren amendment No. 5, printed in H. Rept. 107–375, as modified, that sought to strike the provision that deems a civil action to be a class action if the plaintiff acts for the interests of its members (who are not named parties to the action) or for the interests of the general public, seeks a remedy of damages, restitution, disgorgement, or any other form of monetary relief, and is not a State attorney general (rejected by a recorded vote of 194 ayes to 231 noes, Roll No. 57);

Pages H872–73

Conyers amendment No. 6, printed in H. Rept. 107–375, as modified, that sought to treat a foreign corporation which acquires a domestic corporation as being incorporated in the State where the domestic corporation was organized (rejected by a recorded vote of 202 ayes to 223 noes, Roll No. 58);

Pages H873–74

Jackson-Lee amendment No. 7, printed in H. Rept. 107–375, as modified, that sought to prohibit a party from removing a class action to a district court if the party has been found by a court to have knowingly altered, destroyed, or misrepresented

records or documents (rejected by a recorded vote of 177 ayes to 248 noes, Roll No. 59); and

Pages H882–83

Frank amendment No. 8, printed in H. Rept. 107–375, as modified, that sought to require Federal courts which refuse to certify a class action under rule 23 of the Federal rules of Civil Procedure to remand all aspects of the action to the State court from which it was removed (rejected by a recorded vote of 191 ayes to 234 noes, Roll No. 60).

Pages H883–84

H. Res. 367, the rule that provided for consideration of the bill was agreed to by voice vote. Earlier, agreed to order the previous question by a yeas-and-nays vote of 221 yeas to 198 nays, Roll No. 55.

Page H846

**Discharge Petition:** Pursuant to Clause 2 of Rule XV, Representative Israel filed a motion to discharge the Committee on Rules from the consideration of H. Res. 352, providing for consideration of H.R. 3341, to provide a short-term enhanced safety net for Americans losing their jobs and to provide our Nation's economy with a necessary boost.

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Three yeas-and-nays votes and six recorded votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H837–38, H846, H872, H872–73, H873–74, H882–83, H883–84, H885, and H885–86. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

## Committee Meetings

### AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, AND FDA APPROPRIATIONS

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies held a hearing on Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the USDA: Stephen B. Dewhurst, Budget Officer; J. B. Penn, Under Secretary, Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services; James Little, Administrator, Farm Service Agency; Ross Davidson, Administrator, Risk Management Agency; Ellen Terpstra, Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service; and Mary Chambliss, Acting General Sales Manager.

### COMMERCE, JUSTICE, STATE AND JUDICIARY APPROPRIATIONS

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State and Judiciary held a hearing on